

## **Results of the 1999/2000 FEPT and 1998/1999 I -TOEFL Tests**

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This article reviews and explains the results of the Freshman English Placement Test (FEPT), administered at Asia University in April 1999 and January 2000 and of the Institutional Test of English as a Foreign Language (I-TOEFL) administered during 1998.

### **1999/2000 FEPT**

The FEPT was administered to 1523 entering freshman students in April 1999 and to 1264 freshman students in January 2000. The April test was used to stream students into various levels of Freshman English. This is the second academic year at Asia University that freshman students were given the FEPT on two separate occasions. Although not an achievement test, it was thought that a resitting of the FEPT at the end of the freshman year might give some indication as to whether or not students had made progress in their English proficiency skills.

This was the first year students took the revised FEPT. It differs from the original FEPT in length (45 minutes as opposed to 60 minutes) and in the number of test items (75 as opposed to 100, each test item having a mark value of 1). The format of the FEPT remained the same (listening, grammar and reading).

### **Results**

As seen by the mean scores of students who took the April 1999 and January 2000 tests (Appendix A), there were improvements for all four faculties. In the January test, Business Administration students show a mean score increase of 4 points, Law students 2 points, Economics students 3 points, and International Relations students 6 points. However, for all four faculties a different number of students took the test in April and January (Appendix A),

but no adjustment was made to account for students who did not participate in both test sessions. Therefore an analysis of the two sets of data does not reflect an accurate comparison.

### **The 1998 I-TOEFL Administration/Methodology**

The I-TOEFL was given to all freshman students who planned to participate in AUAP in the 1999/2000 academic year. International Relations and Economics students who participate in AUAP go to the United States in the first semester of their sophomore year (Cycle 1) while Business Administration and Law students go abroad in the second semester (Cycle 2). The I-TOEFL was administered twice during students' freshman year (May and December, 1998). Results of these two tests were used primarily for placement purposes in AUAP. For International

Relations and Economics students the examination was given again for evaluation purposes in September 1999 during their sophomore year after returning from their AUAP semester. Business Administration and Law students will retake the I-TOEFL in February 2001.

### **Results**

Appendix B illustrates the mean scores of all International Relations, Economics, Business Administration and Law students who took the I-TOEFL examinations in May and December, 1998. Mean scores of the December 1998 test results for Business Administration and Economics students show considerable improvement (a mean score increase of 35 for Business Administration and 32 for Economics) while those for International Relations and Law students also show noticeable improvement (a mean score increase of 41 for International Relations and 27 for Law). Normally the number of International Relations and Economics students who retake the exam in September the following year, and the mean score for each faculty, is included in Appendix B. At the time of going to press, however, score results were known but not differentiated by faculty. Since Business Administration and Law students have not yet returned from AUAP as of publication, their post-AUAP scores are not available.

## Appendix A

### FEPT Results 1999/2000

*April 1999*

	Business Administration	Law	Economics	International Relations
Number of Examinees	492	432	375	224
Mean Score	42	46	42	50

*January 2000*

	Business Administration	Law	Economics	International Relations
Number of Examinees	400	384	288	192
Mean Score	46	48	45	56

## Appendix B

### I-TOEFL Results 1998/1999

*May 1998*

	International Relations	Economics	Business Administration	Law
Number of Examinees	218	70	85	64
Mean Score	400	361	365	376
Scores over 500	5	0	0	0

*December 1998*

	International Relations	Economics	Business Administration	Law
Number of Examinees	198	82	99	61
Mean Score	441	393	400	403
Scores over 500	17	0	0	0

\* Because of the AUAP schedule, Business and Law students have not taken the post-AUAP I-TOEFL as of the date of this article.